3. ACQUISITION OFVESSELS UNDER BAREBOAICHARTER-CUM-DEMISE (BBCD)ARRANGEMENT

(i) Technical clearance: As per para 1 above.

(ii) No price reasonableness certificate is required. However, interest margin on rental payments will be verified by ICICI.

(iii) The charter period of the vessel will be for a maximum period of 5 years.

(iv) The rental agreement will come into force after the RBI takes it on record.

4. Ship Acquisition Licensing Committee (SALC) constituted *vide* the then Ministry of Surface Transport's O.M. No. SW/MDO/111/86 dated 1st April, 1987 stands abolished.

JNPT as Hub Port

2978. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust has become a Hub Port with mother ships coming in at the port;

(b) if so, the number of large ships coming to the port annually;

(c) the quantum of transhipment that is to take place with Sri Lanka stopped because of JNPT becoming a Hub Port; and

(d) the extra revenue it generates annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Madam. Jawaharlal Nehru Port is in the process of becoming hub port as main line container vessels are regularly calling at this port.

(b) 504 mainline container vessels called at Jawaharlal Nehru Port during the financial year 2000-2001.

(c) The total transhipment containers handled at Jawaharlal Nehru Port during the last two years i.e. 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 were 21,295 TEUs (2.39% of Total TEUs handled) and 55,147 TEUs (4.63% of total TEUs handled). Thus showing increase in the transhipment traffic at Jawaharlal Nehru Port.

(d) Since the percentage of transhipment cargo being handled is only about 5% of the total containerised cargo handled at Jawaharlal Nehru Port, the revenue generated on account of transhipment is marginal.

Transportation of LNG

2979. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of Liquefied Natural Gas transported by Indian Shipping Industry, Quantity-wise and value-wise;

(b) whether the Indian Shipping Industry get appropriate fiscal incentives and adequate technology transfer for transportation of LNG; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYANYADAV): (a) No Indian Shipping Company has so far transported Liquefied Natural Gas.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

VRS in MBPT

2980. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 6000 employees have taken VRS in MBPT;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether MBPT cannot compete with JNPT;

(d) whether it is also a fact that MBPT is going to sell 26 of its plots which measure 100 and 600 square metres; and /

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYANYADAV): (a)Yes, Sir.

(b) Voluntary Retirement scheme was introduced in Mumbai Port Trust between 28.2.2001 and 30.6.2001. The primary reason for introduction of VRS was to reduce manpower which is surplus and reduce costs, especially in the